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STATE

SUBJECT: Civil Air Negotiations with Italy

REFERENCES: State 006509, Lisbon 0054

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Lisbon for CIVAIRDEL

1. Department agrees that two clarifications suggested in Lisbon 0054 to proposal on multiple designation would greatly help in giving USG proposal better chance of being acceptable to Italians without detracting from any substantive rights that USG could realistically hope to obtain from 601. However, Italy multiple designation issue still under discussion between State and CAB for following reasons:

a) CAB would not oppose statement in letter to Santini that reference to consultations made in US Document 6 (i.e., ex post facto consultations) could be reinserted in supplementary document if Italians so desire. However, CAB thinks unwise for USG offer GOI a priori consultations on Atlanta/Dallas even on "without prejudice" basis. (Some airlines, e.g., American, and National oppose offer of a priori

(2)

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consultations. Delta comments not in yet.)

b) CAB feels it cannot concur idea that US carriers on New York, Boston, Chicago, and Los Angeles limited to total number of three. FYI CAB feels it cannot preclude possibility another all-cargo carrier operating from Chicago or Los Angeles to Italy. End FYI (National, American, Braniff strongly oppose totality of three on these routes. Delta probably would also.)

2. In meantime, letter from Santini to Meadows mentioned State 006509 has now arrived in Department and appears much more negative than earlier reported. Specifically, Santini declares on multiple designations that "it is absolutely not possible for Italy to make further concessions" beyond acceptance of status quo, i.e., total of three US carriers to Italy from all US points. At end letter Santini states that after taking his views into due account negotiations can take place as scheduled on February 3. (Translation Santini letter being cabled septel.)

3. Santini letter appears flatly reject possibility accepting fourth carrier on Atlanta/Dallas route. This may be tactical ploy. In light Santini letter proposed statement as transmitted State 006509 without understandings suggested Lisbon 0054 would probably not be negotiable but this can only be ascertained in course of negotiations. Transmittal

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of statement to Santini with covering letter referring to consultations on new designations (without specifying whether these a priori or ex post facto) ~~would probably~~ might make it possible to resume talks. Alternative is to have letter to Santini outline elements mentioned in statement without transmitting actual draft statement.

4. Would appreciate USDEL and Embassy Rome comments on alternative course of action suggested para 3 above. In meantime, believe desirable Embassy Rome inform Santini USG ~~still tentatively planning meet~~ ~~February 3~~ considering his letter of January 11 and hopes communicate with him very soon.

END

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